



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Advance Release to the PM's OF FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 1947.

ANNOUNCE DESIGN OF NEW "DUCK STAMP"

The new Federal "duck stamp" for the 1947-1948 hunting season on migratory waterfowl will feature geese, according to an announcement made today by the Fish and Wildlife Service. The law requires the use of the stamps by all migratory-waterfowl hunters over 16 years old.

The design of the new stamp, which is the work of Jack Murray, artist for Outdoors Magazine in Boston, Mass., includes two snow geese in flight.

Fourteenth in the series, the new migratory bird hunting stamp is now in the hands of the engravers at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing and will be available to hunters and philatelists at all first and second class post offices on July 1, according to the Service.

Twice before, since this series began in 1934, a goose has been the central design. In 1936 the stamp designed by Richard E. Bishop showed three Canada geese on the wing, and in 1944 Walter Weber selected for his subject three white-fronted geese--part of a flock "coming in."

Sold for \$1, the duck stamps provide funds that help finance the Federal Government's refuge program. Ninety percent of the money realized from the sale of the stamps is used by the Fish and Wildlife Service to supplement other funds for the purchase and maintenance of waterfowl refuges throughout the country. The remaining 10 percent is used for printing and distribution of the stamps, enforcement of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, and other Federal activities for migratory bird conservation.

Duck stamps provide the only available index to the number of wild-fowlers in the country, according to the Service. During the 1945-46 season, 1,725,505 stamps were sold. For the period from July 1 to December 31, 1946, all records were broken with the sale of 1,836,390 stamps.

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